

# Tara Zager Hall

Davis Brown Tower  
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Des Moines, Iowa 50309

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TaraHall@davisbrownlaw.com

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2005-Present      Shareholder Attorney – Litigation Division  
Davis Brown Law Firm, Des Moines, Iowa  
Bar Admission: Iowa, 2005

General litigation practice including but not limited to business litigation, employment and labor relations, litigation and appeals, real estate litigation and family law. Responsible for independent development and management of individual practice within full service law firm.

## EDUCATION

2002-2005      Drake University Law School, Des Moines, Iowa  
J.D. 2002, with High Honors  
Class Rank: 13/128  
Drake Midwest Scholar  
Drake Law School Public Service Volunteer Recognition  
Drake Law Review, Volume 53, Executive Editor  
Drake Law Review, Volume 52, Junior Staff Member  
Publications: Tara Zager, Note, *Terrorism Coverage and the United States Insurance Industry: An International Inquiry in Search of a Long-Term Solution*, 53 DRAKE L. REV. 545 (2005).

1998-2002      University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa  
B.A. 2002, English

## PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC INVOLVEMENT

Greater Des Moines Leadership Institute Community Leadership Program Class of 2014-2015  
Davis Brown Law Firm Professional Personnel Committee  
Davis Brown Law Firm Professional Responsibility Committee  
Polk County Women Attorneys  
Polk County Bar Association Law Day Committee Member

Iowa State Bar Association  
Iowa Organization of Women Attorneys  
American Bar Association  
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Iowa  
C. Edwin Moore Inn of Court  
Drake Law School Board of Counselors  
P.E.O.

**PERSONAL**

Interests include camping, hiking, reading and traveling.



## Polk County Bar Association

625 E. Court Ave., Suite 100  
Des Moines, IA 50309-2007

January 8, 2015

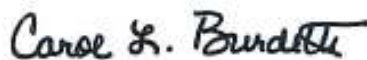
Dear Forty Under 40 Selection Committee,

Tara Hall is a leader within the Polk County Bar Association (PCBA). The PCBA is an active and vibrant organization serving the needs of attorneys and the community in Polk County. We rely on active volunteers like Tara to implement the goals and priorities of the organization.

Currently, the PCBA provides professional support to over 1500 attorney members. As a current Law Day Committee member and past chairperson of this Committee, Tara has helped lead the committee to one of prominence within the organization. We reach out to public and private schools in Polk County to encourage students to participate in an annual writing and fine arts competition on a topic relevant to today's public awareness of the legal profession. Hundreds of students participate in this project, hopefully instilling an awareness and appreciation of the law as it relates to their lives.

Tara has selflessly given her time and legal expertise because she believes in the purpose of this organization and the importance of engaging young people in the dialog of how the rule of law preserves freedom and liberty for all. These are the attributes that make me proud to nominate her for Forty Under 40.

Sincerely,



Carol Burdette,  
Executive Director  
Polk County Bar Association



### **president**

Emily Chafa  
502 East 9th Street, 3rd Floor  
Des Moines, IA 50319  
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### **president elect**

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100 Court Avenue, Suite 600  
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### **vice president**

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### **treasurer**

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801 Grand Ave. Suite 4100  
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### **secretary**

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215 10th Street, Suite 1300  
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### **executive director**

Carol L. Burdette  
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Des Moines, IA 50309  
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January 8, 2015

Jason Swanson  
Business Record  
100 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Des Moines, IA 50309

Re: Recommendation Letter for Tara Hall Supporting Her Nomination for Forty under 40

Dear Mr. Swanson:

I understand that Tara Hall has been nominated for one of the *Business Record*'s awards this year for "Forty under 40" recognition. I am writing this letter to you in enthusiastic support of Tara's nomination. I am a member of the law faculty at Drake Law School and have served the school twice as its Dean. I had Tara in class, came to know her outside of class through her activities, and have remained a friend and admirer since her graduation from the Law School in 2005.

Tara is a smart person, works hard, and did very well at Drake, graduating with high honors. A premier co-curricular activity at the Law School is to be selected to write for and then to serve on the Board of the *Drake Law Review*, and Tara did both. She wrote a very good article on terrorism coverage and the insurance industry, and she served with distinction as the *Review*'s Executive Editor. I remember well the year in which she served as Executive Editor. It was an outstanding year for the *Law Review*. She was actively involved in the professional community of the Law School in other ways, indeed, not just the Law School. She was a leader in the Student Bar Association, and she was also chosen by the American Bar Association Law Student Division as Lieutenant Governor for the 8<sup>th</sup> Circuit.

She joined the law firm of Davis Brown following her graduation, and there she has obtained excellent experience and become a very good young litigator and trial lawyer. Indeed, for two years in a row now she has been named a *Great Plains Super Lawyers* "Rising Star." She has become active in community affairs. She has been active in the Polk County Bar Association, where among other things she has been one of the leaders planning Law Day activities.

She is a thoughtful person who prepares thoroughly for anything she undertakes—classwork, co-curricular activities, volunteer activities, work for the firm on behalf of clients—and I quickly came to value her insights and opinions. When I returned as Dean in 2003-2008, I saw that she was appointed to the Law School's Board of Counselors even as a young lawyer. She is poised, has good judgment, participates in discussion well, and people listen to her. Even as a student, Tara showed herself to display leadership qualities—energy, a disposition to make a difference and make things better, integrity, a willingness to listen and understand and also to speak up, and follow-through—and she has continued to display those qualities since her graduation in 2005.

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She's also a real person—with family, children, friends, a widening community she cares about—and she relates extremely well to other people.

I believe Tara Hall would make an outstanding selection for one of the *Business Record's* Forty under 40 Awards. I would be happy to speak personally with you or anyone whom you might designate should you have any questions that you would like to ask me. Thank you for considering my comments and recommendation of Tara.

Sincerely,



David S. Walker  
Dwight D. Opperman  
Distinguished Professor of Law